United States District Court Southern District of Texas FILED

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS BROWNSVILLE DIVISION

APR 2 5 2001

Michael N. Milby
Clerk-of Court

RAQUEL O. RODRIGUEZ AND JOSE L. RODRIGUEZ

2000

VS.

CIVIL ACTION NO. B-CV-96-177

RIDDELL SPORTS, INC.

RIDDELL, INC.

ALL AMERICAN SPORTS CORPORATIONS

D/B/A RIDDELL/ALL AMERICAN

AND CHRIS HOODMAN

RESPONSE IN OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFFS' MOTION IN LIMINE CONCERNING EPIDEMIOLOGICAL AND STATISTICAL EVIDENCE

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

Now comes Riddell, Inc. and All American and file this their Response in Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion in Limine pertaining to Defendant's Epidemiologist and statistical evidence and would request an evidentiary hearing so that defendant can properly predicate the opinions of Dr. Kenneth Clarke and in support of same would show the court the following:

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Plaintiff's argue that Dr. Clarke's testimony is predicated upon Dr. Joseph Torg's data which was found by an Illinois Appellate Court to be unreliable. The <u>Galindo</u> decision cited by Plaintiff is not *stare decisis* binding on this court nor is the holding in fact case determinative of the issue herein. That case concerned the testimony of Dr. Joseph Torg not Dr. Clarke. Dr. Torg, an orthopedic surgeon interested in catastrophic neck injuries occurring in football, began a data collection based on catastrophic head and neck injuries in the early 1970s. The court excluded Dr. Torg's survey as hear say,

stating that the Defendant laid no foundation for it's scientific accuracy. In this case Dr. Clarke's reliance on the Torg data is limited to historical perspective and not to his opinions pertaining to the relevant period of time or the utility of the VSR-4 helmet.

lt is significant to note, however, that Dr. Clarke's conclusions and opinions based on historical data back to 1970 have wide acceptance in the field of sports safety and both the survey results and conclusions therefrom have been accepted by the sponsors of the 1978 Annual Survey of Football Fatalities; American Football Coaches' Association, the National Collegiate Athletic Assoc., the National Federation of State High School Association and the Consumer Production Safety Commission. (See Ex 1, 45 Fed. Reg. #197, 9/24/80, page 63327, findings of the Consumer Product Safety Commission citing the National Football Head &Neck Injury Registry data and conclusions along with the National Athletic Injury Illness Reporting System (NAIRS) and finding" "the final report of this CPSC supported effort stated that the evidence does not support helmet causation of "head injuries". In addition, the NAIRS report stated no particular "hard-shelled" helmet was associated with a disproportionate number of concussions ...", Id at 63327.

The main data source for Clarke's analysis is the National Football Head and Neck Injury Registry, now the National Center for Catastrophic Sports Injury Research. In 1980 Frederick O. Mueller, PhD, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH) was appointed by the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA), the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and the National Federation of State High School Association (NFSHSA)to continue research began by Dr. Carl Blythe at that institution under the new title "American Survey of Football Injury Research". As

the testimony of Dr. Clarke will show this report commissioned by the NCAA, AFCA & NFSHSA is considered trustworthy and is relied upon by experts in the field concerned with sports safety issues. The annual report is reviewed and relied upon each year by coaches, trainers, medical practitioners and epidemiologists in making decisions on rule changes, coaching techniques, equipment selection and risk factors associated with football and other sports now included in the registry. The data collected by Dr. Mueller's organization forms the basis of numerous peer reviewed publications widely accepted in the field including publications such as "Catastrophic Injuries in High School & College Sports", Muller, Cantu, Van Camp, Human Kinetics - Sports Science Monograph Series, 1996.

Dr. Clarke's conclusions and opinions have wide acceptance, Dr. Clarke's testimony that the relative infrequency of catastrophic brain injuries in high school football is inconsistent with the allegation of a defective football helmet in common use (such as the VSR-4) is not a medical opinion, as Plaintiffs contend, but an epidemiological one which refutes Dr. Stalnaker's opinion that a person wearing a VSR-4 helmet has an 8 to 18% risk of receiving an AIS injury of 4 or greater, which could include an injury such as Jose Rodriguez's (SF 357-359). In fact Dr. Clarke's testimony is one of the key factors mitigating against the credibility of Dr. Stalnaker's conclusion since the Plaintiffs' expert opinions are contrary to statistical and epidemiological evidence, long recognized in the field.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, defendants pray that the Court deny Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine pertaining to Defendant's Epidemiologist and statistical evidence and for all such further relief, general, special, legal and equitable which

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might be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a true and correct copy of the above was forwarded by telefax transmission and certified mail, return receipt requested to counsel of record on this the day of April, 2001.

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Robert Summers

04/25/01 09:30A P.005

FROM: WHO'S YOUR_DADDY?? FAX NO.: 2104922755 Apr. 25 2001 09:25AM P1

Wednesday September 24, 1980 Highlights Printings on these To Loc the Fastered Register— For decide up the resumption of briodings in Washington, D.C., non-assessment in the Reader 83475 Overpotermi Hattey and Health Labor/OSHA respect tulensking record for load standard: Commente by 10-17-00; housings on 11-5, 11-5 and 11-7-20 (Part IV of this issue) Wage and Price Captrain CWPS entends second-year price standards; eliberty 15-1-50; congress; by 10-50-60 (Parl El el this issue) ticks Trues Treebury/IRS incres interior rule and proposes rule for determining base patent for tier 2 arts affective with respect to oil removed after 2-22-26 generates by 12-26-20 (2 C1205 Truth in Landing PH2 proposes stall interpretation regarding sequency interest disclarates in slaved and model transactions; specimens in by 10-25-40 Treasury Noise Treasury/Mary appointment for the second watholf lighteday CPEC device pullical requesting

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to being published in corporate in a regress from the ICSP:

The ICSP has reviewed a proposed nacional minordards policy for the United States developed by the National Standards Policy Advisory Committee [NSPAC], uptablished in \$677 testor the suspices of the American National Standards Incitious, and published in December 1875 At the planety associate has have 14. 3000 the ECSF addition the foliowing randiples, with so mamber dispositing but with one abstraction. remarking but the policy aspects of the NSPAC document. [It made no observation with regard to the recommended implementation plus for the proposed nectional pulicy which was included as a superate and distinct port of the NSPAC moores

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As a matter of further information it should be noted that the NSFAC report which was issued over a year believe promulgation of OMIS Circular A-115 on Pensary 17, 1980, combine recommendations which may be at verteen with certain of the policy wittendeliche hen elegenater directives in the Cheeler. For example, the NEPAC report measuranthes that the provincent charact photoprotection in conspense proposed under the standards development process which MIPAC mosended be edupted. The Chewler makes no rest broad requirement, but conference Perform Sancolate and belt edicinistrative discretion, to the en al voluntary elandride in promesesses andico-

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Management, Consumer Product Guisty

Considerion, Washington, D.C., 20007,

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ACCINEDE: Copies of the published and staff's brinking pustyriple on the publicus may be obtained from the Office of the Searchery, Consumer Freehold, Sufety Commission, 1713 18th Street, N. W. Washington, D.C. 20007.

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1. Bethy-mi

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Commission (CPSC) to hagin a provide a provide a remander product safety standard or land, from 10 class provides that if the Commission design wash a putition, it shall publish its resource for design in the Polanti Regions.

By latter dated Deprember 17, 1879.

and supplemented by a latter dated between 34, 1897. Etc. A.C. Larcher of Chicago, Elimeia published (CP 77-7) the Commission to extendish membelony enfoty attended for football between and shace. In his substitution, Dr. Lauther claimed that the application of cylinder air chambers covered by a softened plantic apterior shall an homeon regulation.

On March 16. 1875 the Commission denied that the position will be a feel that the basis that westingly be independent on the basis that westingly like the design of the shore contributed to feetball injuries. [See 48 FR 9949]. Agriculture was defected. In that part of the position relating to believed that further investigation by its class was meaning to the summing that further investigation by its class was meaningly standard for helmets are decision or may remaintary standard for helmets.

Conjuncted that the Committee Separate sequented that the Committee in the Land Unit. This reducities was treated as a structured in manufact of the petition, CP 77-Y, in accordance with the Commission's publicating regulations at 15 CFR 17168. [The Constitution also retained in April of 1677, a submission from Dunyand, has requesting the tecurous of a communic product enfaty ruly for feetball industries was studied as a statement in separate of CP 77-Y.]

2. Completion Evaluation of the Patition

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The Commission reviewed several source of injury data accordance with arguments in the bigh school and college leads. The Commission also considered data from the Commission's Minipal Meatwoods injury Surveillance System Philippi which includes injuries amortand with high eigestand that was injuries amortand with high eigestand that was polyment for the Commission of the professional from the Commission the Commission of the professional from the Commission is unly constrained with a

injuries associated with ransants: use of products

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The 1972 Acasal Survey of Fundali Parelitics published by the American Panthali Coaches' Association, the Notional Collegists Attistic American and the Motteral Pederator of Plate High Sakeq Appreciations, and severed by the Commission stuff showed that the rate of Jostboll Intaitiles from head imjuries has decreased uver the period 1970-1979. The spensors of the outver established this decrease to (1) take changes subsyled at the and of the 1975 pleying meson which probable the use of the bread ("besting" and "speciality") while testifies in high ephonical and college Southers, [3] Indee south require the wearing of early those helmote appeared by the Melieral Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Resignations (NOCME) and [4] improved conditioning programs and skill lucturiques templemented by conches and Crashbars.

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In addition, the Commission staff reported that there ere many westables allaethe an individual piliteir's successfullty to injury, regardless of the type of helmet that to were, home of the verlation include on, development, physical shift test, experience. repervision, equipment, prythological becare and craining.

3. Conductor

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MC19242 Notice of Measure Product Salety Advisory Council

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Case 1:96-cv-00177 Document 291 Filed in TXSD on 04/25/2001 Page 9 of 9

Federal Register / Vol. 45, No. 187 / Wednesday, September 34, 1980 / Nollage

Commission masting and in the example will make the subject of Commissioners to discurs the subject of receive. On Miday, members will by briefed on CMCC budget, priorities, and Beld plants for FY 51, and will plan their programs for the year.

The numbing to upon an the public. however, space to Herital? Passons who wish to make usel or written presentation to the Product Safety Advisory Council should speily the Office of the Societary (199 address above by Oxlaber S. 1884. The motification: hitsuid list the mante of the individual who will make the procurrency. On person, the company. group or tiducty on whose behalf the presentation will be made, the subject motor, and the approprimary line responsed. Time permitting. Case preventations and other stresspres from the audience to members of the Council

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DEPARTMENT OF DEPENSE

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Scientific Advisory Manual Mouting

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The USAT finientific Advisory Spand Licensoric Systems Divinion Advisory Comp will hold antalings on Cataber 17 from 406 a.m. to 500 p.m. and an Cataber 18 from 600 a.m. to 1200 p.m. at Humanum Air Form Sens, Manuachanette in the Continent Management Canter, Buildian 1806.

The Group will receive classified dispersions on selected Air Proce Command.
Command. and Communications Programs.
The amelings question matters belod in section 3535(c) of This & U.S.C., specifically passepape (1) thereof, and will be alread to the public.

For further information operacy the Scientific Advisory Board at (201) 007— 8404.

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Put further information content the

DEPARTMENT OF IMERGY

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The dreft supplement is baing furnished to Pederal, Senten, and local agreement with systematical superties. and to those they's to be interestful in, or a flowed by, the proposed program. Copies of the document are nine being furnished to State and incul classing heatens and to other interested groups and individuals.

Biogle copies are evallable upon request contact Throthy J. Mustay, Assistant Project Manager for Exvironmental States. Democratile Power Administration. P.D. Box 3621—ETMC. Partland. Chapter 67208.

Motice of public hymrings an this document will be published in the Federal Register of a lyter date.

Devel of Machington, DC, this tally day of September 1966.
Change E. Sell,
Assistant Administrator.
PP Documental vetters are out
This copt september.

Estimante Proprietory Administration

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in Absordance with the providence of the Musintery Connection Crucis (M)
Allocation Applications, 10 CFR Part 214.
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Notice of Printy Pinton

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